



PRESS RELEASE

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LATIN KING DRUG SOURCE SENTENCED TO 17 ½ YEARS IN PRISON

Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Jacquelyn R. Martinson, DOB: 3/23/81, of the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in Sawyer County, was sentenced yesterday in United States District Court in Madison to 17.5 years in federal prison without parole. Martinson had previously pleaded guilty to conspiring with other members of the Latin King Nation to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine on and around the Reservation.

In sentencing Martinson, Chief Judge Barbara B. Crabb found that she was one of the primary suppliers to the Latin King gang on the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation. In addition, Chief Judge Crabb increased Martinson's sentence because the gang used guns and also used juveniles, known as "shorties," in their drug distribution.

Acting United States Attorney Sinnott stated that Martinson is the 31st person sentenced to prison as a result of the long-term investigation conducted in Sawyer County by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation-Narcotics Bureau, and the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department.

In a related case, Robert C. Kuehne, 50, of rural Sawyer County, pleaded guilty

yesterday to distributing crack cocaine. Kuehne faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison without parole and Judge John C. Shabaz scheduled sentencing for October 12 at 2:15 p.m. The government's proof at the guilty plea hearing established that Kuehne sold crack cocaine in December 2003 to an individual cooperating with the law enforcement agencies in this investigation.

The prosecution of these cases has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

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